THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Out of 25 vacancies in Group C and 15 in Group D posts reserved for Ex-servicemen, 17 posts in Group C and 5 in Group D were filled up in the Calender year, 1991.

(c) Vacancies reserved for Ex-servicemen are not carried forward and therefore, the question of backlog does not arise.

SC/ST Employees Placed under Suspension in Air India

1675. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) how many SC/ST employees of Air India have been placed under suspension for more than six months during the past five years;

(b) what are the details of such cases with period of suspension;

(c) whether any enquiry was conducted in thsee cases and how many have been found not guilty; and

(d) whether salary for the suspension period has been paid for such employees not found guilty?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

लेह-लद्दाख राजमार्ग का विकास

1676. श्री महेश्वर सिंह : नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में लाहौल के जनजातीय क्षेत्र से हो कर जाने वाला लेह-लद्दाख राजमार्ग लद्दाख के लिए सबसे छोटा सड़क मार्ग है और यह पर्यटकों को भी विशेष रूप से आकर्षित करने वाला है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उपर्युक्त सड़क मार्ग पर पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान पर्यटक यातायात में काफी वृद्धि हुई है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस क्षेत्र में पर्यटन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार की क्या योजनाएं हैं?

नागर विमानन और पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री माधव राव सिंधिया): (क) और (ख) जी, हां।

(ग) केन्द्रीय पर्यटन विभाग ने गहन विकास हेतु कुल्लु-मनाली लेह सर्किट का अभिनिर्धारण किया है, जिसके लिए अस्थायी कार्य योजना तैयार करके राज्य सरकारों के पास भेज दी गई है, इसके अतिरिक्त, जम्मू व कश्मीर में रम्ट से और हिमाचल प्रदेश में जिस्पा में मार्गस्थ सुविधाओं को मंजूरी दी गई है, जिसमें 1990-91 के दौरान केन्द्र का भाग 24 लाख रूपए का है।

Development of Cuddapah Airport in Andhra Pradesh

1677. DR NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop the airport at Cuddapah in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Hike in IA fares

1678. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines has any proposal to hike its fares;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) There is no proposal at present for any increase in the domestic air fares of Indian Airlines.

Development of Tourism in Pondicherry

1679. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the tourism plan for the country ;

(b) whether Government have identified the tourist spots in the Union Territory of Pondicherry with the assistance of the State Government ; and

(c) what is the total amount allocated by Government for the development of tourism in Pondicherry ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The Eighth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

(b) and (c) Development and identification of tourist spots is primarily the responsibility of the Union Territory Administration. However, Central financial assistance is extended on specific proposals based on their merits, availability of funds and interse priorities. This would be decided after the detailed proposals have been received from the U.T. Administration for the year 1992-93.

French Proposal for Development of Airports in the Country

1680. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any proposal from France for the modernisation and upgradation of national and international airports in the country ;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the names of these airports ; and

(c) the details of assistance proposed to be provided for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of Religious Places in Bihar

1681. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that places of pilgrimage of almost all the religions are located in the State of Bihar which can also be developed as potential tourist centres ; and

(b) if so, what action the Central Government have taken to develop the pilgrimage places of Bihar into tourist centres to attract tourists ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) Development of Tourist Centres whether religious or otherwise is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. Government of India does not on its own undertake development of such places ; However, it assists the State Government in Development of infrastructural facilities on the basis of specific proposals received which are considered on the basis of its merits, inter-se-priority and availability of funds.

Utilisation of Airbus A-320

1682. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the present passenger traffic is less than the number of passengers carried by the Indian Airlines in 1987-88, even though 18 Airbus 320 planes were added to the fleet ;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that the utilisation of Airbus 320 is almost half